

REMARKS

This is in response to the final rejection dated February 26, 2004.

All of the claims were allowed except claims 67-70. Claim 70 has now been canceled and new claim 71 substituted.

In the Statement for Reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter, the Examiner indicated that the invention as claimed in claims 1, 2, 4-25 and 45-66 in combination with providing a photorefractive polymeric material having a "single" isomeric state, and producing a refractive index inhomogeneity resulting from a non-uniform space-charge distribution within the material is not disclosed or made obvious by the prior art of record.

With that in mind, claims 67 and 69 have been amended to incorporate both of those elements, and thus it is respectfully submitted that both of these independent claims are prima facie allowable. Therefore, entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested. Claims 67 and 69 remove the final illuminating step, which was not mentioned as needed for patentability.

The Amendments that are provided for claim 67 also overcome the objections by adding in the missing punctuation.

The feature of illuminating the material with radiation to erase the recorded data, which was present in claim 67 has been moved into dependent claim 68. It is respectfully submitted that the allowability has not been affected by removing this limitation from the claims.

Claim 70 has been canceled and replaced with new independent claim 71. Claim 71 also recites the photoreactive material having a single isomeric state and the producing of "a refractive index inhomogeneity resulting from a non-uniform space-charge distribution within the material". Thus, the non-obvious features of the method are included in claim 71, and it is believed clearly allowable.

A form PTO 2038 is enclosed to cover the fee of \$43.00 for the additional independent claim.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTMAN, CHAMPLIN & KELLY, P.A.

By: 

Nickolas E. Westman, Reg. No. 20,147  
Suite 1600 - International Centre  
900 Second Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-3319  
Phone: (612) 334-3222 Fax: (612) 339-3312

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